

Warfare vs. Business

A Comparison of East Asian Principles and Strategies

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Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of this research is to analyze and compare the different parts of armies and businesses in order to understand how they function.

Objectives

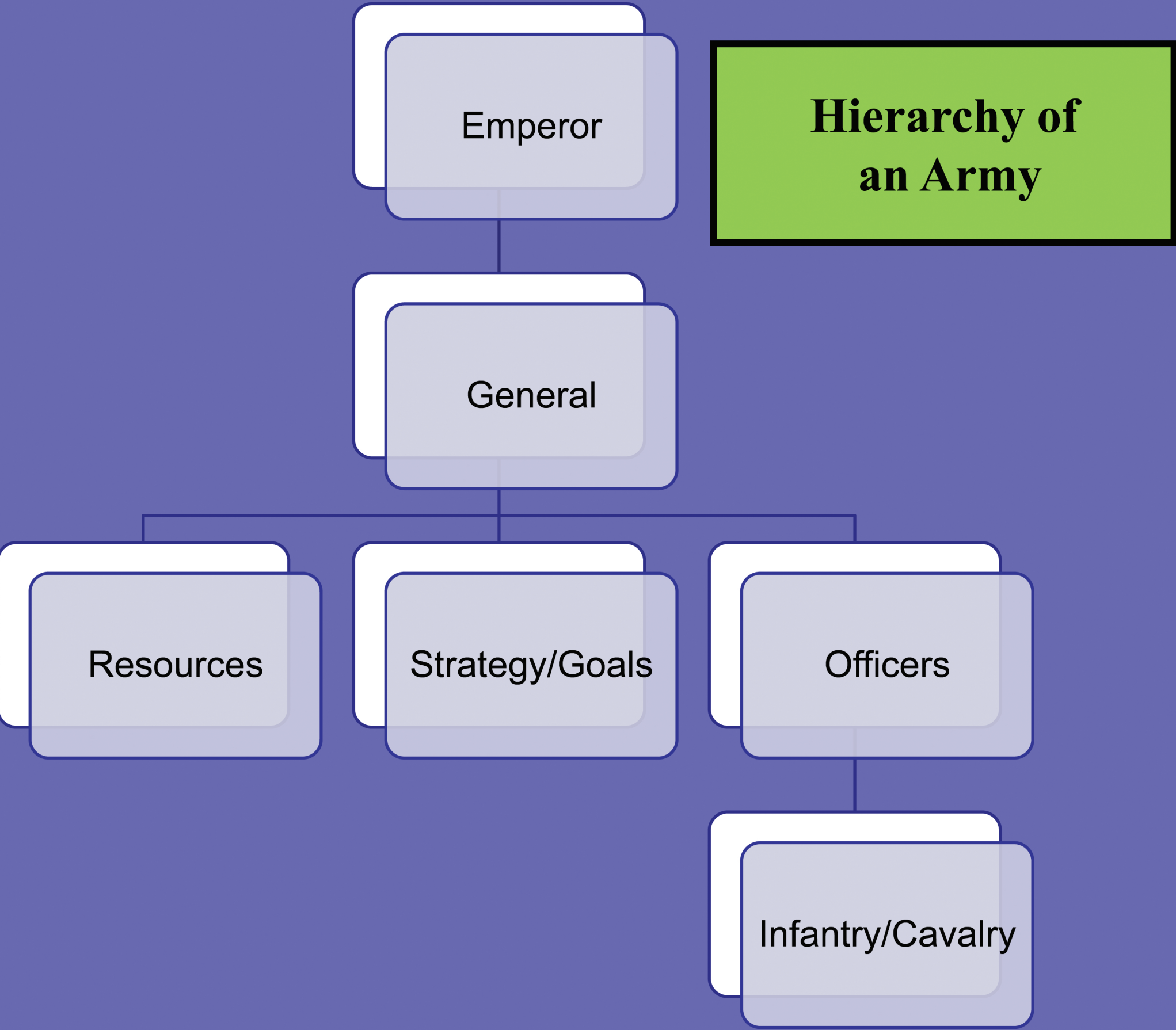
1. To review literature on warfare, martial arts, and business
2. To compare principles of warfare and business in order to identify similarities and differences
3. To formulate guidelines for modern-day business based on the comparison
4. Formulate conclusions about modern-day business principles and the principles of warfare

Principles of Business and Warfare

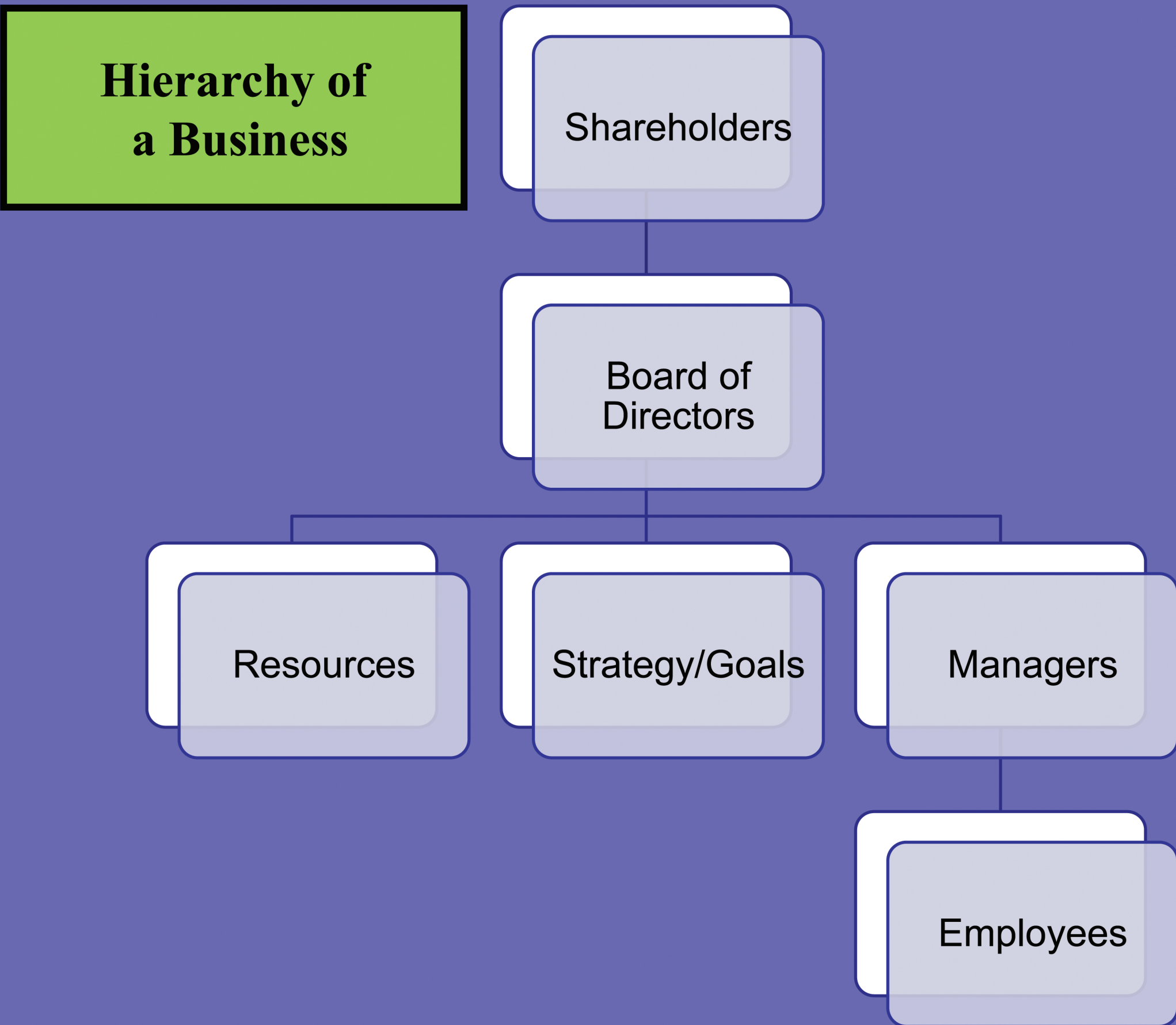
1. Adaptation and variation of technique
2. Discipline
3. Communication among managers and employees
4. Structure of the organization
5. Reward and punishment
6. Respect

Sun Tzu suggested that the majority of the discipline doesn't come from everyone being self-sufficient and finding their own way but instead it comes from the way the general behaves. "By *method* and *discipline* are to be understood the marshaling of the army in its proper subdivisions, the graduations of rank among the officers, the maintenance of roads by which supplies may reach the army, and the control of military expenditure" (Laying Plans, par. 10, Giles).

Hierarchy of an Army



Hierarchy of a Business



Conclusion

Through the analysis of ancient text written by Sun Tzu Bing Fa and Miyamoto Musashi it can be concluded that business and ancient warfare are very similar in terms of the outlined principles as it relates to adaptation, discipline, respect, communication, reward and punishment, and structure of the organization.

References
Giles, L. (2011). Art of War. New York: An imprint of Sterling Publishing.
Musashi, M., & Cleary, T. b. (2000). The Book of Five Rings. Boston and London: Shambhala Classics.

